

Message Text

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70

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 EA-06 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-07

L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 SAJ-01 NIC-01 BIB-01 /064 W

----- 024528

R 041900Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7369

INFO AMCONSUL HONG KONG

USLO PEKING

C O N F I D E N T I A L PORT OF SPAIN 0287

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PDIP TD CH

SUBJECT: POSSIBLE ESTABLISHMENT OF CHINESE EMBASSY

1. TRINIDAD PRESS FEB 4 CARRIES REUTER'S REPORT FROM HONG KONG QUOTING RADIO PEKING TO THE EFFECT THAT DURING CURRENT VISIT OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO PRIME MINISTER WILLIAMS TO THE PRC THE TWO GOVERNMENTS HAVE SIGNED AN AGREEMENT ON SETTING UP EMBASSIES IN EACH OTHER'S CAPITALS.

2. SINCE ALL PREVIOUS INFORMATION HAD INDICATED THAT ONLY A PRC "FUNCTIONAL OFFICE" WOULD BE ESTABLISHED IN PORT OF SPAIN, WE CONTACTED GOTT MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS TODAY TO REQUEST CLARIFICATION OF PRESS REPORT. CHIEF OF PROTOCOL (PERMANAND) STATED THAT THE MINISTRY HAD BEEN UNDER THE DEFINITE UNDERSTANDING PRIOR TO THE PRIME MINISTER'S CURRENT TRIP THAT ONLY FUNCTIONAL OFFICES WOULD BE ESTABLISHED. THEY HAVE NO REPORT YET FROM DR. WILLIAMS CLARIFYING OR AMPLIFYING THE PRESS REPORT, BUT ASSUME THAT IT MAY INDEED INDICATE THAT AGREEMENT HAS NOW BEEN REACHED FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF EMBASSIES.

3. COMMENT: ON THE PRESUMPTION THAT RADIO PEKING REPORT IS ACCURATE, GOTT-PRC RELATIONS HAVE INDEED MOVED SWIFTLY. DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS ON A NON-RESIDENT BASIS WERE FIRST ESTABLISHED IN JUNE 1974 (POS 1351 JUNE 74). IN NOVEMBER 1974 PRIMIN WILLIAMS
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PAID AN OFFICIAL VISIT TO CHINA, MET WITH BOTH CHOU AND MAO,

AND AGREED TO THE OPENING OF FUNCTIONAL OFFICES AS WELL AS
PROMOTION OF TRADE AND EDUCATIONAL EXCHANGES (POS 2699 NOV 74).
IN DECEMBER, THE GOTT REPEALED LEGISLATION BANNING IMPORTATION
OF CHINESE COMMUNIST PUBLICATIONS. WILLIAMS MADE SECOND
VISIT TO CHINA IN JANUARY-FEBRUARY 1975 AND AGAIN MET
WITH CHOU EN-LAI. THIS VISIT HAS NOW REPORTEDLY RESULTED IN
AN AGREEMENT TO ESTABLISH RESIDENT EMBASSIES.
MILLER

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Message Attributes

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